Wallenstein Wagner & Rockey

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

311 South Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6630
phone: 312-554-3300
fax: 312-554-3301
www.wwrfirm.com

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Examiner Michael B. Holmes	FROM: James P. Muraff
COMPANY: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	DATE: June 8, 2005
FAX NUMBER: 571-273-3686	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 8
YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER: 09/678,428	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: 3863 P 003
RE: Attached	

This fax may contain Attorney work product, which is privileged and confidential

NOTES/COMMENTS:
Should you have any problems with receipt of this facsimile transmission, please contact Gillian Gardner at (312) 435-7259.

Attorney Docket No.   3863 P 003   PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Thomas H. Tapio

Application No.:   09/678,428   Examiner: Michael B. Holmes
Confirmation No.:   4356
Filed On: October 2, 2000   Art Unit: 2121

For: System and Method for Sharing of Expert
       Knowledge

PROPOSED AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT FOR REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Proposed Examiner's Amendment

38.   A method of authoring, generating, and using a compliance application having a plurality of computer interface pages viewable with an interface, the compliance application interacting with a user to find a solution to a problem through the user answering a series of questions and/or following a series of steps, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a first question, a second question, and a third question from an expert, wherein none of the first, second, and third questions have an answer which is incorrect;

receiving a first potential answer to the first question and a second potential answer to the first question from the expert, wherein both the first and second potential answers to the first question are correct answers to the first question, and wherein the first and second answers are utilized in a non-dynamic and pre-populated manner to create a compliance path;

receiving a first potential answer to the second question and a second potential answer to the second question from the expert, wherein both the first and second potential answers to the second question are correct answers to the second question, and wherein the first and second answers are utilized in a non-dynamic and pre-populated manner to create the compliance path;

receiving a solution to the problem from the expert, the solution being an answer and/or a step for the user to follow for use in the compliance application;

receiving a first Boolean logic rule from the expert, the first Boolean logic rule associating the first potential answer to the first question, the first potential answer to the second question, and the third question, the first Boolean logic rule being utilized within the compliance application for directing the user through the compliance path for complying with the

Appl. No. 09/678,428
Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003
Page 2 of 7

compliance application;

receiving a second Boolean logic rule from the expert, the second Boolean logic rule associating the first potential answer to the first question, the second potential answer to the second question, and the solution, the second Boolean logic rule being utilized within the compliance application for directing the user through the compliance path for complying with the compliance application;

generating the plurality of computer interface pages based on the first question, the second question, the third question, the first potential answer to the first question, the second potential answer to the first question, the first potential answer to the second question, the second potential answer to the second question, the first Boolean logic rule, the second Boolean logic rule, and the solution;

transmitting a first computer interface page of the plurality of computer interface pages to the user, the first computer interface page displaying the first question to the user;

receiving a first response from the user, wherein the first response is indicative of one of the first potential answer to the first question and the second potential answer to the first question, wherein if the first response is in correct syntax, the first response will always be correct, and wherein at least one of the first and second potential answers to the first question will match the first response and lead to a further step within the compliance path or to the solution within the compliance path;

transmitting a second computer interface page of the plurality of computer interface pages to the user, the second computer interface page displaying the second question to the user as a part of the further step within the compliance path;

receiving a second response from the user, wherein the second response is indicative of one of the first potential answer to the second question and the second potential answer to the second question, wherein if the second response is in correct syntax, the second response will always be correct, and wherein at least one of the first and second potential answers to the second question will match the second response and lead to a further step within the compliance path or to the solution within the compliance path;

executing at least one of the first Boolean logic rule to produce a first rule result which is indicative of the next step in the compliance path, and the second Boolean logic rule to produce a second rule result, which may also be indicative of the next step in the compliance path or may

Appl. No. 09/678,428
Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003
Page 3 of 7

be indicative of the even further step within the compliance path; and

transmitting a third <u>computer interface</u> page to the user, the third <u>computer interface</u> page displaying the third question to the user if the first rule result is positive as the next step in the compliance path, the second <u>computer interface</u> page displaying the further step in the compliance path or the solution to the user if the second rule result is positive.

49. A <s>computer-readable medium</s> <u>plurality of computer files</u> storing instructions structured to facilitate authoring, generating, and using a compliance application having a plurality of pages viewable with an interface, the compliance application interacting with a user to find a solution to a problem through the user answering a series of questions and/or following a series of steps, the instructions being structured to cause a computer to:

receive a first question, a second question, and a third question from an expert, wherein none of the first, second, and third questions have an answer which is incorrect;

receive a first potential answer to the first question and a second potential answer to the first question from the expert, wherein both the first and second potential answers to the first question are correct answers to the first question, and wherein the first and second answers are utilized in a non-dynamic and pre-populated manner to create a compliance path;

receive a first potential answer to the second question and a second potential answer to the second question from the expert, wherein both the first and second potential answers to the second question are correct answers to the second question, and wherein the first and second answers are utilized in a non-dynamic and pre-populated manner to create the compliance path;

receive a solution to the problem from the expert, the solution being an answer and/or a step for the user to follow for use in the compliance application;

receive a first Boolean logic rule from the expert, the first Boolean logic rule associating the first potential answer to the first question, the first potential answer to the second question, and the third question, the first Boolean logic rule being utilized by the compliance system for directing the user through the compliance path for complying with the compliance application;

receive a second Boolean logic rule from the expert, the second Boolean logic rule associating the first potential answer to the first question, the second potential answer to the second question, and the solution, the second Boolean logic rule being utilized within the compliance application for directing the user through the compliance path for complying with the compliance application;

Appl. No. 09/678,428
Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003
Page 4 of 7

generate the plurality of pages based on the first question, the second question, the third question, the first potential answer to the first question, the second potential answer to the first question, the first potential answer to the second question, the second potential answer to the second question, the first Boolean logic rule, the second Boolean logic rule, and the solution;

transmit a first page of the plurality of pages to the user, the first page displaying the first question to the user;

receive a first response from the user, wherein the first response is indicative of one of the first potential answer to the first question and the second potential answer to the first question, wherein if the first response is in correct syntax, the first response will always be correct, and wherein at least one of the first and second potential answers to the first question will match the first response and lead to a further step within the compliance path or to the solution within the compliance path;

transmit a second page of the plurality of pages to the user, the second page displaying the second question to the user as a part of the further step within the compliance path;

receive a second response from the user, wherein the second response is indicative of one of the first potential answer to the second question and the second potential answer to the second question, wherein if the second response is in correct syntax, the second response will always be correct, and wherein at least one of the first and second potential answers to the second question will match the second response and lead to a further step within the compliance path or to the solution within the compliance path;

execute at least one of the first Boolean logic rule to produce a first rule result which is indicative of the next step in the compliance path, and the second Boolean logic rule to produce a second rule result, which may also be indicative of the next step in the compliance path or may be indicative of the even further step within the compliance path; and

transmit a third page to the user, the third page displaying the third question to the user if the first rule result is positive as the next step in the compliance path, the second page displaying the further step in the compliance path or the solution to the user if the second rule result is positive.

60.   ~~An apparatus~~ At least one computer structured to facilitate authoring, generating, and using a compliance application having a plurality of pages viewable with an interface, the compliance application interacting with a user to find a solution to a problem through the user

Appl. No. 09/678,428
Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003
Page 5 of 7

answering a series of questions and/or following a series of steps, the ~~apparatus~~ at least one computer being structured to:

receive a first question, a second question, and a third question from an expert, wherein none of the first, second, and third questions have an answer which is incorrect;

receive a first potential answer to the first question and a second potential answer to the first question from the expert, wherein both the first and second potential answers to the first question are correct answers to the first question, and wherein the first and second answers are utilized in a non-dynamic and pre-populated manner to create a compliance path;

receive a first potential answer to the second question and a second potential answer to the second question from the expert, wherein both the first and second potential answers to the second question are correct answers to the second question, and wherein the first and second answers are utilized in a non-dynamic and pre-populated manner to create the compliance path;

receive a solution to the problem from the expert, the solution being an answer and/or a step for the user to follow for use in the compliance application;

receive a first Boolean logic rule from the expert, the first Boolean logic rule associating the first potential answer to the first question, the first potential answer to the second question, and the third question, the first Boolean logic rule being utilized by the compliance system for directing the user through the compliance path for complying with the compliance application;

receive a second Boolean logic rule from the expert, the second Boolean logic rule associating the first potential answer to the first question, the second potential answer to the second question, and the solution, the second Boolean logic rule being utilized within the compliance application for directing the user through the compliance path for complying with the compliance application;

generate the plurality of pages based on the first question, the second question, the third question, the first potential answer to the first question, the second potential answer to the first question, the first potential answer to the second question, the second potential answer to the second question, the first Boolean logic rule, the second Boolean logic rule, and the solution;

transmit a first page of the plurality of pages to the user, the first page displaying the first question to the user;

receive a first response from the user, wherein the first response is indicative of one of the first potential answer to the first question and the second potential answer to the first

Appl. No. 09/678,428
Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003
Page 6 of 7

question, wherein if the first response is in correct syntax, the first response will always be correct, and wherein at least one of the first and second potential answers to the first question will match the first response and lead to a further step within the compliance path or to the solution within the compliance path;

transmit a second page of the plurality of pages to the user, the second page displaying the second question to the user as a part of the further step within the compliance path;

receive a second response from the user, wherein the second response is indicative of one of the first potential answer to the second question and the second potential answer to the second question, wherein if the second response is in correct syntax, the second response will always be correct, and wherein at least one of the first and second potential answers to the second question will match the second response and lead to a further step within the compliance path or to the solution within the compliance path;

execute at least one of the first Boolean logic rule to produce a first rule result which is indicative of the next step in the compliance path, and the second Boolean logic rule to produce a second rule result, which may also be indicative of the next step in the compliance path or may be indicative of the even further step within the compliance path; and

transmit a third page to the user, the third page displaying the third question to the user if the first rule result is positive as the next step in the compliance path,, the second page displaying the further step in the compliance path or the solution to the user if the second rule result is positive.

Appl. No. 09/678,428
Attorney Docket No. 3863 P 003
Page 7 of 7

Proposed Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The prior art alone or in combination does not disclose or teach a method, a plurality of files, or at least one computer for authoring, generating, and using a compliance application for complying with a task by receiving questions, answers, solutions, and logic from a subject matter expert, wherein the answers are all correct, and for associating the questions, answers, and/or solutions through the logic. The answers are utilized in a non-dynamic and pre-populated manner to create a compliance path, with the compliance path taken through the generation of computer interface pages based on the questions, answers, logic and/or solutions.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 8, 2005   By: _____

James P. Muraff, Reg. No. 39,785
Wallenstein Wagner & Rockey, Ltd.
311 South Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6630
312.554.3300